

1. The Tabernacle with the Ark of the Covenant was set up in Shiloh, in the center of the Promised Land.

2. The complaint of the descendants of Joseph:
 - 1) They felt their allotment was too small

 - 2) They were proud of their association with both Joseph and Joshua.

 - 3) They were unwilling to deal with the obstacles preventing them from having more usable territory.

 - 4) There is application here for our lives.

 - 5) “How long will you wait before you begin to take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you?”
 - a) The promises to each of the tribes

 - b) The experience of Christ for us

 - 6) With the tribe of Levi, there are 13 tribes in Israel, because Joseph’s sons are each a half tribe. Joseph therefore got the double blessing that his father Jacob had promised.

1. Point and Counterpoint:

1) God gives them the land and decimates the opposition.

2) They respond, but not completely.

3) We often respond as Israel did.

a) God is sovereign.

b) We are responsible.

2. The six cities of refuge scattered throughout the land of Israel:

7) God and Israel considered human life to be precious.

8) The “avenger of blood”

9) These cities were designated places of refuge for those who committed unintentional murder.

10) They appear to have gotten very little use.

3. Simeon and Levi’s curse

- 1) Simeon was allotted land in the far southern corner and eventually faded into unidentifiable existence.

- 2) Levi was scattered among the tribes with no land of their own, but God turned this into a blessing because they had been loyal to Jehovah while the rest of the nation had rebelled.

- 3) Romans 8:28: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.” He can even turn curses into blessings.

1. The dismissal of the tribes of Reuben Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh

- 1) They were godly people.
 - a) They had served for 7 years in the army across the Jordan without complaining and were commended by Joshua - Joshua 22:1ff.

 - b) They built an altar on their way home to show their oneness with the other tribes.

 - c) Israel's reaction to this altar:
 - i. Shows they were zealous for God's honor

 - ii. Shows the ease with which misunderstandings and divisions are created in the body of Christ

2. Joshua's instructions to the two and a half tribes:

- 1) Keep the commandments and the laws.
- 2) Love the Lord.
- 3) Walk in His ways.
- 4) Obey all His commands.
- 5) Hold fast to Him and serve Him.

3. Summary: Obey, Love, Serve

1. The end of the Book of Joshua sounds just like the beginning.
 - 2) The promise of the land
 - 3) The plan recorded in the book
 - 4) The personal presence of God Himself

2. “One of you routs a thousand for the Lord your God fights for you.” (Joshua 23:10)

3. Joshua’s concern is the lingering presence of the other nations among them.

4. Joshua’s three-fold formula to safeguard against spiritual backsliding:
 - 1) Obeying the Word of God

 - 2) Separation - “In the world but not of the world”

 - 3) Love your God!

5. Joshua’s stated consequences if they failed in the above three areas:
 - 1) Defeat

 - 2) Discomfort

 - 3) Disgrace

6. The renewing of the covenant at Shechem:
 - 1) Not in our own power: “You are not able to serve the Lord your God”.

 - 2) Daily decision: “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”.

1. Psalm 78 is a historical Psalm as are 105 and 106.
2. It was written by Asaph.
3. There are two themes:
 - 1) The sins of Israel
 - a) They refused to walk in His Law; there was a deep-rooted pattern of rebellion. (verse 10)
 - b) They forgot His works. (verse 11)

The importance of ancient Israel's history for us:

 - i. It teaches us so much about our changeless God.
 - ii. It strengthens our hands for present and future trials.
 - c) They spoke against God. (verse 19)
 - d) They did not trust Him. (verse 22)
 - e) They lied to Him. (verse 36)
 - f) They grieved Him. (verse 40)
 - g) They limited Him. (verse 41)
 - h) They worshiped graven images. (verse 58)
 - 2) The grace of God demonstrated in His mighty acts of redemption
 - a) He divided the sea (verse 13)
 - b) He led them with the cloud and fire. (verse 14)
 - c) He gave them water from the rocks. (verse 15)
 - d) He rained down manna from heaven. (verse 24)
 - e) He was full of compassion and forgiveness. (verse 38)

- f) He wrought signs for them in Egypt. (verse 43)
- g) He brought them into the Promised Land. (verse 54)
- h) He cast out the heathen before them. (verse 55)
- i) He chose David to lead them. (verses 70-71)
- j) He fed them. (verse 72)

4. Review: The cast of characters in the Book of Joshua

- 4) Joshua, son of Nun
- 5) Caleb, son of Jephunneh
- 6) Rahab (chapter 2)
- 7) “The commander of the Lord’s army” (chapter 5)
- 8) Achan (Chapter 7)
- 9) Adoni-Zedek (Chapter 10)
- 10) Phinehas, son of Eleazar, grandson of Aaron

5. Events in the Book of Joshua

- 4) The Miracles
 - a) The parting of the Jordan River (chapter 3)
 - b) The falling of the walls of Jericho (chapter 6)
 - c) The sun standing still (chapter 10)
- 5) The Battles
 - a) Jericho (chapter 6)

- b) Ai (chapters 7 and 8)
 - c) Gibeon (chapter 10)
 - d) Merom (chapter 11)
- 6) The Ceremonies
- a) The establishment of the two stones at the Jordan River (chapter 4)
 - b) The rite of circumcision at Gilgal (chapter 5)
 - c) The reading of the Law of God and Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim (chapter 8)
 - d) The establishment of the Tabernacle at Shiloh (chapter 18)
 - e) The altar built at Geliath by the two and a half tribes (chapter 22)
 - f) The renewal of the covenant at Shechem (chapter 24)

6. The renewing of the covenant at Shechem: